

CLAIMS

1. Method of processing digital images, these images ($M'i$, $M''i$) being transmitted from a server (202) to a decoder (208, 206) using various modes of display, images being coded in a dependent manner such that the coding of a first image is used to code a second image, the said method being characterized in that the order of transmission of the images from the server to the decoder is determined as a function of the dependence of these images and the mode of display requested by the decoder.

2. Method according to Claim 2, characterized in that the mode of display used by the decoder (206, 208) is transmitted to the server (202) so that the server (202) performs the transmission of the images as a function of the mode of display used by the decoder (206, 208).

3. Method according to Claim 3, characterized in that, when the server (202) transmits coded images (M'_i , M''_i) to the decoder (206, 208), the server in parallel therewith transmits a command (C'_i , C''_i) associated with each image comprising information allowing the decoder to process each image.

4. Method according to Claim 3, characterized in that the information comprises

- a field (Display) indicating whether the said image is to be displayed,
- a field (Decode) indicating whether the said image is to be decoded,
- a field (BuffNr) indicating in which memory buffer of the decoder (206) the said image ($M'i$) is to be recorded after decoding,
- a field (P_BuffNr, I_BuffNr) indicating the index numbers of the memory buffers containing images serving for the decoding of the said image,
- a field (Forward) indicating the direction of display of the images.

5. Method according to Claim 4, characterized in that, when the terminal receives coded images (M_i') and a command (C_i') associated with each image, the command (C_i') is transmitted to a first memory buffer (212) while the coded images are transmitted to other memory buffers (214b).

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6. Method according to one of Claims 3 to 5, characterized in that the commands stored in the first memory buffer (212) are processed as a function of their order of storage in the said memory buffer.

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7. Method according to one of Claims 1 to 6, characterized in that use is made of modes of display defined by a direction of display, that is to say the order in which images are displayed, as well as by a speed of display such that a variable number of images is displayed for one and the same processed group of images.

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8. Method according to one of Claims 5 to 7, characterized in that when the decoder changes display mode, the size of the first memory buffer (212) is reduced.

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9. Method according to one of Claims 5 to 8, characterized in that when the decoder changes display mode, the first memory buffer (212) is emptied.

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10. Device for processing digital images, comprising means of transmitting these images from a server (202) to a decoder (206, 208) using various modes of display, the images ($M'i$, $M''i$) being coded in a dependent manner such that the coding of a first image is used to code a second image, the said device being characterized in that it comprises means of determining the order of transmission of the images from the server (202) to the decoder (206, 208) as a function of the dependence of these images and the mode of

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display requested by the decoder (206, 208), the said device being preferably adapted to implement a method according to any one of Claims 1 to 9.

11. Computer program product comprising program code instructions for the execution of the steps of the method of processing digital images according to one of Claims 1 to 9, when the said program is executed on a computer.